

520 DISABLED VEHICLES

520.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Columbia Police Department has adopted this policy regarding providing assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles within this organization's jurisdiction.

520.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

When an on-duty officer observes a disabled vehicle, the officer should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If that officer is assigned to a call of higher priority, the dispatcher should be advised of the location of the disabled vehicle and the need for assistance. The dispatcher should then assign another available officer or other department member to respond as soon as practicable.

520.3 EXTENT OF ASSISTANCE

In most cases, a disabled motorist will require assistance. After assistance is rendered or arrangements for assistance are made, continued involvement by department personnel will be contingent on the time of day, the location, whether on the roadway or off the roadway, the availability of department resources and the vulnerability of the disabled motorist.

520.3.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Department personnel shall not make mechanical repairs to a disabled vehicle. The use of push bumpers to relocate vehicles to a position of safety is not considered a mechanical repair.

520.3.2 RELOCATION OF DISABLED VEHICLES

The relocation of disabled vehicles by members of this department by pushing or pulling a vehicle should only occur when the conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to reduce a hazard presented by the disabled vehicle.